

MONTROSE CHEMICAL CORPORATION OF CALIFORNIA

AFFILIATE OF STAUFFER CHEMICAL COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 147

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

March 17, 1953

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By BUREAU OF
SANITATION

Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Bureau of Sanitation
748 City Hall
Los Angeles, California

Attention: Mr. W. A. Schneider,
Waste Disposal Engineer

Dear Mr. Schneider:

Please refer to your letter of March 3, 1953,
File No. - 67 - Sewer Maint., Subject - Industrial
Waste Disposal.

During recent visits to our Plant at
20201 South Normandie by your representatives and
by representatives of the Los Angeles County
Sanitation District, the problems involved in
complete control of our industrial waste have been
discussed at considerable length and definite,
generalized plans developed.

The principal difficulty has been the
necessity to dispose of relatively large quantities
of dilute sulfuric acid. The economies of the
situation as concerns this Plant and the products
produced precluded the use of anything but a low
grade, low priced waste sugar lime. The quality
of this material was uncontrollable and frequently
was of such a nature as to cause gummy deposits in
the sewer line, causing sufficient restriction to
the flow to result in backing up of the waste.
Until the waste water could be reduced, this resulted
in drainage to the natural surface channels. This
problem has been under intensive study by this
Company for several months, and has finally resulted
in a process change which eliminates 90% of the
acid waste and will make possible the use of more
expensive, soluble type neutralizers.

It is a pleasure to report at this time that
this process was put on the line on March 13, 1953,
and that the use of lime has been reduced to a
minor amount. Within the next month the use of lime

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will be discontinued, and either sodium hydroxide or other soluble neutralizer substituted.

Although this does not satisfy the various conditions for proper waste disposal, it does insure that the present sewer connection will remain open and that no industrial waste will get into the surface channels.

The requirement for separation of all contaminated waste from all uncontaminated storm waters will necessitate considerable revision of inplant drainage. The engineering on this will be completed in approximately two weeks and will be submitted to you at that time along with requests for the proper permits. It is intended to submit proposed plans for connecting to the Normandie Avenue sewer at the same time, in order that work on these two projects may proceed together.


Segregation of the contaminated waters from the uncontaminated is complicated by the outdoor nature of much of the Plant facilities. In a few of these areas the possibility of contamination is serious and it will be necessary to install curbs to retain this water and run it off to the sewer. In the plans to be submitted the extent of the proposed curbed areas will be shown along with the quantity of contaminated water which may be expected from the areas.

Before completion of the engineering work it is impossible to estimate when these various installations can be completed. However, it is our intention to have all this work completed before June 30, 1953.

The cooperative approach and understanding of your various representatives, as well as those from the County Sanitation District, has been sincerely appreciated. It is our intention to do all we can to comply with your regulations as rapidly as possible, and we hope that we will continue to receive your cooperation and assistance.

Very truly yours,

MONTROSE CHEMICAL CORPORATION OF CALIFORNIA


A. R. Wilcox
Plant Superintendent

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cc: County Sanitation District